

A wooden cross stands in the center of the image, surrounded by a field of white baby's breath flowers. The background is a soft, light blue sky. The text is overlaid on the image in a blue, serif font with a drop shadow effect.

Boulton St. Mary's Community Magazine

Know it, Live it, Share it.

Winter - Spring 2025

Since our last issue...





Contents:

The Churchwarden Writes	4-5
Everyone Is Invited!	6
A Message from Phillippa	7
Eco Church Silver Award	8-9
Article by Alec	10-12
Church Cleaning	13
Dates For Your Diary	14-15
Activity Page	16
Bible Bite	17
Contact Numbers	18-19
Scouting News	20-21
Bishops Badge	22
Love In Action!	23
Messy Church and Prayze	24-25
Thank you	26
National Nest Box Week	27
A Prayer for 2025	28

For future submissions, please email us at:

magazine.bsm@hotmail.com

Submissions deadline: March 17th 2025

Next issue: April 2025

Follow us on **Facebook** or visit us at

www.boultonstmarys.co.uk

The Churchwarden Writes...

Well it has been a busy old time since I last wrote. We had another exceptional festive season with around 1500 school visitors coming into church for a variety of carol services, nativities and Christingles, as well as more occasional visitors to our regular services.

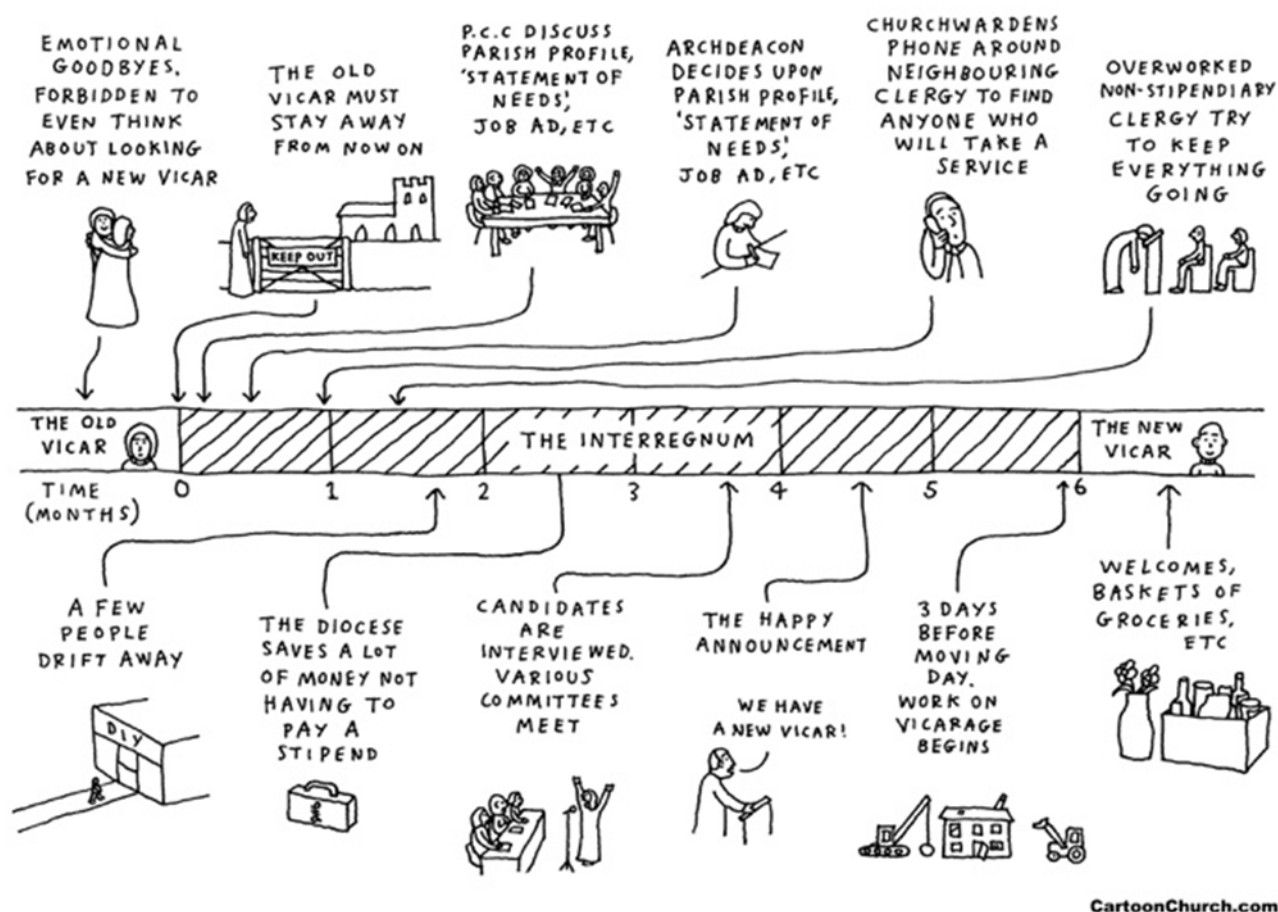


The Christmas Fair was a wonderful time of fellowship and community engagement with the added bonus of swelling the church coffers. Bearing in mind our gas bill just for December was over £700 that was much needed. The positive side of the large bill is that the boiler has indeed held on, only failing once during the most recent icy weather. The boiler is a bit like many of us, in that when it hits minus 5 degrees it just wants to hibernate!

A little while back I shared the following cartoon with you, and I'm really pleased to say we are to be blessed by our new vicar Reverend Phillippa Taylor very soon. Although for us the time scale has been one of years not months, I firmly believe God has had his hand in the process – we always have said the right person was the most important thing and worth waiting for .

The Churchwarden Writes...

THE INTERREGNUM



I am also hopeful that the arrival of an enthusiastic new vicar will spur someone into standing as a second churchwarden at our APCM in April. Teamwork is the key to everything and it would be wonderful to have someone else alongside me. It's a time of great excitement for Boulton St Mary's, as we hopefully see our vision beginning to develop, so perfect to be an integral part of it all. Perhaps come and have a chat with me about what it actually entails.

Many blessings to you all.

Paul, your friendly and helpful Churchwarden



Our new vicar is on her way and
will be licensed at a special
service in church on
Sunday March 9th at 3pm.



We would love to see the church full to welcome Rev
Phillippa to our community and there will be cake and
refreshments a plenty afterwards.

Whether you consider yourself a regular church member
or not, the fact you are reading this means you are very
welcome (as is anyone who lives in our community).

No need for ceremony – the Churchwarden will be in
shorts as usual.



A Message From Phillippa

Hello St Mary's! I just wanted to take the opportunity to introduce myself and say hello before I'm licenced as Priest-in-Charge.



I'll be moving to Boulton with my husband Jim who works on lifts. We've been married for nearly 24 years and have a cat Bailey who is quite keen on cuddles and cat treats!

I'm originally from Loughborough where most of my family still live, but for the past 2.5 years we've been living in Leicester where I've completed my curacy.

Before I trained for ordination, I worked in the travel industry and Jim, and I still enjoy going on holiday and visiting new places.

You are very much in my prayers at the moment. I am really excited to be joining you and can't wait to start meeting people, and finding out more about you and life at St Mary's!

Blessings, Phillippa

Eco Church Silver Award

We are working hard to achieve the next level of Eco Church award. This award is so important as it is one of ways we can show how we are caring for God's creation within our church community. We are really proud of our current bronze award but now we are going for silver! Please have a read of how you can get involved and some of the projects we have planned in the coming months.

Personal carbon footprint

Our world is in crisis - from climate change to the pollution in our oceans and devastation of our forests. It's up to all of us to fix it. Take your first step with our UK based environmental footprint calculator.

Visit footprint.wwf.org.uk to calculate your own impact on our planet.



Fairtrade

Fairtrade works with farming co-operatives, businesses and governments to make trade fairer. Together with Fairtrade farmers and workers we have a vision: a world in which trade is based on fairness so that producers earn secure and sustainable livelihoods. Just look for the Fairtrade logo when you are shopping.



Wildlife survey of the church yard

We have lots of bird boxes, bat boxes and hedgehog houses in the church yard. But how often are they used? We are looking for people who might be interested in conducting a survey of the wildlife in the church yard. If you are interested in this please speak to the church warden.

Energy saving top tips



LOAF

Use your LOAF to make a difference!

The importance of food as an environmental issue is increasingly apparent. As you shop for your food reflect on the LOAF principles:

Locally grown

Organic

Animal friendly

Fairtrade

Street Pastors, Prayers, Co-incidences, and Angels

By Alec

A strange title you may think! What can this be about?

For those who may not know about the Street Pastors, in many towns and cities there are dedicated Christian people who show the love of God in practical ways to people who have got into difficulties on a night out at weekends on the city streets between 10.00 pm and 2.00 am

Throughout the many towns and cities where there are street Pastors there must be an infinite number of examples of help given. However, I would like to share this recent example with you.

The Street Pastors found a lady alone, she was not too sober, and she was distressed because she could not find her partner. The couple had come into the city for a weekend break to try and repair their fractured relationship, so she was not familiar with the city. Her partner was not answering her phone calls and therefore the Street Pastors decided the best course of action was to escort the lady back to her hotel, as she had forgotten the way. Then at least she would be safe. They managed to do this successfully and God was thanked for an answered prayer.

Just before the Street Pastors signed off for the night, they found someone lying on the ground after drinking too much. They managed to get him up and, on his way, and were a few steps away from returning to the Street Pastor/Prayer Pastor base when they saw the lady again that they had taken back to the hotel.

She was out and about searching for her partner again. Despite the fact it was already past 2.00am finishing time, they decided to accompany her, because she knew and trusted them, and they did not want to leave her on her own.

The Street Pastors had no idea what the man looked like, and the lady said he had done this before which did not inspire hope. They were looking for a needle in a haystack. However, they continued to search for a very long time and the base prayer Pastors continued offering their prayers that the Holy Spirit would lead them.

It was much later after a lot more searching that the Street Pastors reported the good news. The lady continued ringing her partner's phone, and at last it had been answered, but not by her partner. Some night workers from Network Rail heard the phone and saw it belonged to a man lying unconscious under a river bridge. The Street Pastors asked if they would stay with him until they could get there. As they had been searching the city centre no where near the man's location thankfully, they agreed to wait. The Street Pastors managed to rouse the man and got him back to his hotel where he was wrapped in warm blankets. He had been lying in freezing temperatures and was extremely cold. Had he not been found his life would have been in danger from hypothermia and he could have easily rolled into the river and drowned. It was 3.30am when the Pastors signed off, but the extra time spent was well worth it.

(Continued Overleaf)

Street Pastors, Prayers, Co-incidences, and Angels

All those co-incidences could only have been God-incidences, couldn't they?

The fact the Street Pastors had met the lady earlier in the night; the fact that they were delayed from getting back to base by another casualty so they saw the lady a second time; the fact she persevered ringing her partner's phone; the fact that the night workers happened to be passing that deserted area and had gone to investigate.

God works in such amazing ways it takes your breath away, doesn't it, and as true believers we should not be astonished by it. It is also a big reminder of the power of prayer, and we can totally trust the Lord will always hear our prayers and answer us in His own way and time.

You may be wondering where are the Angels in this story? Well it's like this. The Street Pastors contacted Network Rail to ask who the workers were so they could thank them. Network Rail said they had no record of any of their personnel working in that area that night or at that time. So, there's a profound thought to ponder.



No Towns, Cities or names are ascribed here, but I can vouch for the absolute truth of this story and un-impeachability of the source

Alec

PORTRAIT SITTERS NEEDED

Friendly, local art group seeks portrait models.

Wednesday 10-12.00am at
Mickleover Community Centre



£25 cash paid per session.

No experience necessary.

Must be reliable.

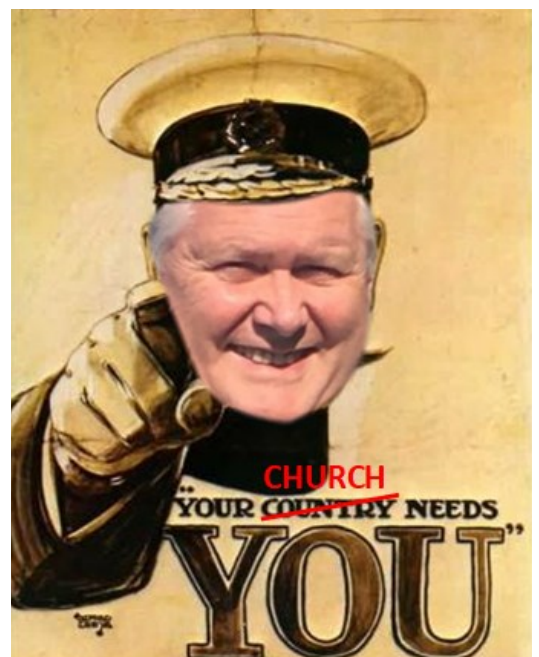
To apply please contact
Derby Sketching Club by emailing:
mail@derbysketchingclub.co.uk

CHURCH CLEANING

February 15th, March 15th and April
19th at 9.30am

We will also be decorating the Church for
Easter on April 19th.

All help very much appreciated!



Important Dates

February 2nd

Said Morning Prayer @ 9am : Morning Prayer @ 10.30am :
PraYze @ 7pm

February 9th

Said Holy Communion @ 9am : Holy Communion @ 10.30am :
Messy Church @ 4pm

February 16th

Said Morning Prayer @ 9am : Holy Communion @ 10.30am

February 23rd

Said Morning Prayer @ 9am : Morning Prayer @ 10.30am

March 2nd

Said Holy Communion @ 9am : Holy Communion @ 10.30am
PraYze @ 7pm

March 5th

Ash Wednesday Service @ 6pm

March 9th

Licensing Rev Phillippa @ 3pm

March 16th

Said Holy Communion @ 9am : Holy Communion @ 10.30am
Messy Church @ 4pm

March 23rd

Said Morning Prayer @ 9am : Holy Communion @ 10.30am

March 30th

Said Holy Communion @ 9am : Mothering Sunday @ 10.30am

Important Dates

April 6th

Said Holy Communion @ 9am : Holy Communion @ 10.30am :
Prayze @ 7pm

April 13th - Palm Sunday

Said Holy Communion @ 9am : Palm Sunday @ 10.30am :

April 17th

Maundy Thursday Worship @ 6pm

April 18th

Good Friday Last Hour Service @ 2pm till 3pm

April 20th - Easter Sunday

Joint Easter Celebration with Holy Communion @ 10.30am

April 27th

Said Holy Communion @ 9am : Holy Communion @ 10.30am

FIRST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH *Coffee morning to include enquiries for weddings, funerals and baptisms.*



Activity Page

See page 24 for the solution!

s	h	o	u	t	v	c	n	r	z	l	h	n
a	k	n	c	h	e	s	t	n	p	n	x	h
f	s	c	a	p	t	u	r	e	d	s	f	u
e	m	e	m	t	b	u	y	e	t	g	o	d
w	g	k	p	u	n	r	y	e	d	h	e	o
a	y	g	e	a	o	o	p	e	c	s	z	q
l	r	p	d	t	r	m	k	i	p	k	l	v
l	y	r	c	t	u	l	r	a	r	m	y	c
s	o	i	s	r	a	e	l	i	t	e	s	v
j	v	e	t	w	j	l	o	c	k	e	d	j
l	d	s	k	j	o	s	h	u	a	v	a	a
k	y	t	h	c	f	i	g	h	t	o	w	n
r	u	s	h	e	d	g	a	t	e	s	d	f

locked

walls

captured

destroyed

Jordan

army

fight

once

gates

victory

Jericho

collapsed

camped

Israelites

chest

Joshua

safe

God

priests

trumpets

shout

town

walked

rushed

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

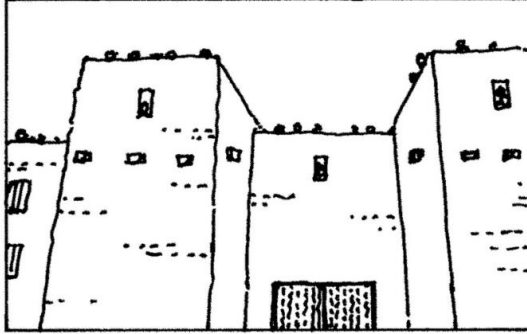
It can be read in the Bible in
Joshua chapter 6 verses 1-27

Joshua led the Israelites across the
river Jordan. They camped near the
town of Jericho and prepared to fight.

The people in Jericho
locked the town gates.



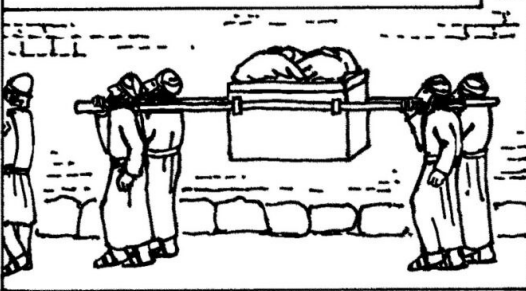
They thought they were safe.



God told Joshua
what to do.



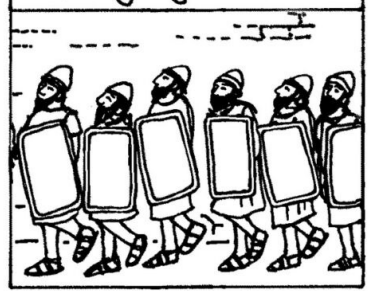
On the first day, the priests
carried the sacred chest,



they blew trumpets,
and walked round
Jericho once.



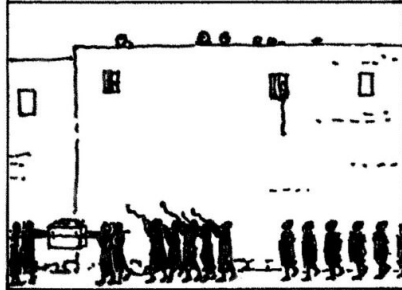
The army followed
not saying a word.



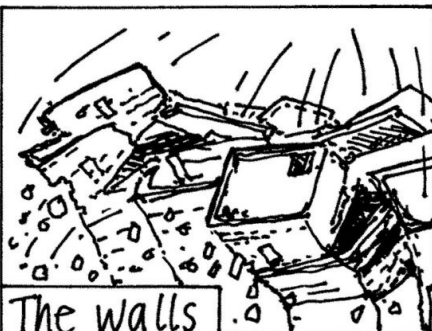
They did this
for 6 days.



On the 7th day they
walked round 7 times.



The army gave a victory shout!



The walls
of Jericho collapsed.

The army rushed into
the town and
captured it.



Jericho was destroyed.

Contact Numbers

Church

Church Warden	Paul	01332 329987
PCC Treasurer	Skye	07309 690691
Parish Admin	Lisa	01332 574450
PCC Secretary	Vacancy	
Diocese Safeguarding Team	Diocese	01332 388678
BSM Safeguarding Officer	Rachael	07590 979697
Hall Bookings	Grant	01332 679600
Pastoral Support	Julie	

Children & Youth Groups

Messy Church	Rachael	07752 451057
F.R.O.G (Youth Fellowship)	Cheryl	01332 329987

Community

137 th St Mary's Scouts	Maureen	07725 055338
	/ Kim	07951 006830
137 th St Mary's Cubs	Zac	07913 120785
137 th St Mary's Beavers	Alan	07968 415854
172 nd Group Scout Leader	Dave	07967 668008
172 nd Scouts	Jo	enquiries @172scouts.org.uk
172 nd Cubs	Matt	
172 nd Beavers	Sarah	

Contact Numbers

Community

NHS (non-emergency)	111
Police (non-emergency)	101
Derby City Council	01332 293 111
Food 4 Thought Alliance	01332 346266
Domestic Violence	08000 198668
Community Action Derby	01332 227743
Alcoholics Anonymous	01159 417100
National Gambling Helpline	08088 020133



Sue Gardner

Personal Assistant

I am a qualified carer with over 20 years experience.
I hold an NVQ Level 2 in Health and Social Care, an ASET Level 2 in Dementia Care and have completed training in Moving and Handling.

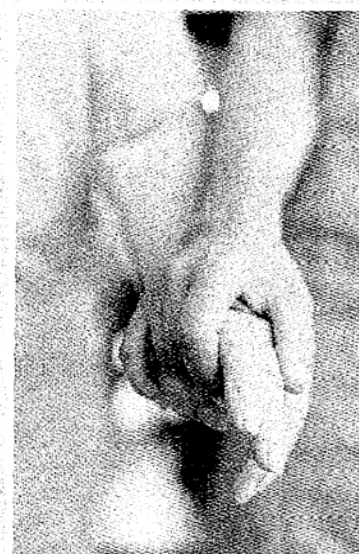
I can offer support with

- personal care
- household tasks
- shopping
- escort for medical appointments or social events
- companionship
- home sitting services

Hourly rate £10

Tel: 01332 603280
Mobile: 07947 548936

I hold a valid DBS certificate and have public liability insurance. References available upon request.



Scouting News From the 137th St Mary's Scouts

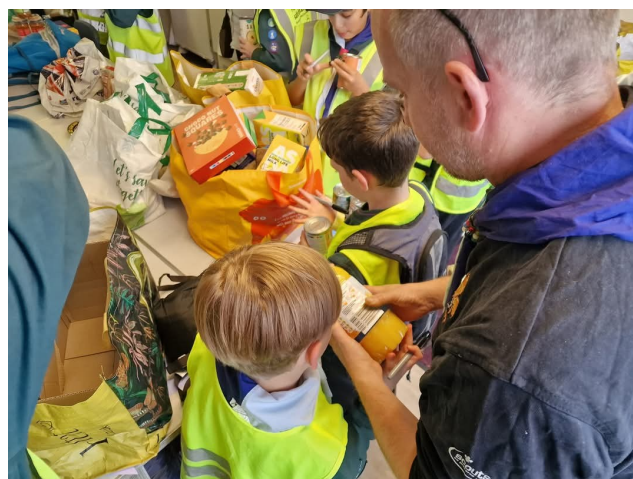
The Chief Scout Award shows you have given new things a go. Developed your skills worked as a team and individual. It is an amazing achievement, and something to be very proud of. To be awarded the badge you must complete all nine of the Challenge Awards, plus six Activity badges.

Edmund and Lily both joined the movement in 2017. When they both moved up to the Scout Troop from Cubs, could see the willingness to learn and adopt new skills. Their drive and determination to complete activity badges at home to reach this goal have been amazing.



Last year they undertook their Scout expedition, which saw them carrying their own equipment, food, and personal belongings from the hut to Drum hill Camp Site. They then had to set up camp and cook for themselves.

Then just before summer the Group helped out at the local food bank to understand the needs of their community.



Edmund who is our troops Senior Patrol Leader has always set an example to new younger Scouts of what can be achieved. He currently holds all 9 Challenge badges, 10 Activity Badges and 17 Staged badges.

Lily has been with our Group since beavers. She has developed so much since she joined the Scout troop. She has become a very outgoing Scout, who very often buddies up with new Scouts to get them settled in. She has been a caring and compassionate Scout.

Lily is one of Our Patrol Leaders and currently holds all 9 challenge badges, 9 Activity badges and 9 staged badges.

Congratulations to them both

In July the Scouts were working towards the World challenge badge. To complete this badge they had to spend some time volunteering at a local service, understand why the service was there, who required it and why it is so important.

Lisa Walsh from All Christians Together Foodbank Alvaston and Allenton came down and spoke to the Scouts about how important the Food Bank was, and who it serves locally.

The Children then completed some activities to learn more. The following week All Cubs and Scouts walked down to the food bank with donations from the group.

All of them got stuck in, to help organise shelves put the donations away and date products. It was a valuable learning experience which they have expressed to do again!



Bishops Badge

By Elizabeth Brookes

It was a complete shock and a total joy to find out that I had been awarded the Bishop's Badge for 'Missional Long Service'.



I would like to thank all those who over the years have helped, encouraged and supported me on my journey of faith and to those who nominated me for this special award.

But the biggest thanks must go to our Lord who has placed his trust in me to serve him.



Love In Action

Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.' (1 John 3:18).

The writer Gary Chapman describes how love can be expressed in 5 different 'languages': words of encouragement, quality time, gifts, acts of service and touch. Do you have a preferred language of love? As we think about St Valentine during this month, let's consider how God's love language is expressed in the word *agape*.

This is exclusively found in the New Testament and is uniquely defined by Jesus: *'This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down His life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters.'* (1 John 3:16). Jesus' giving of His life on the cross provides the model for how we can demonstrate God's love in our relationships with others.

It is self-giving: are we ready to put the other person first, as Jesus did when He died for us in our place. Are we generous with our time, words, money and service, whatever the cost?

It takes the initiative: are we ready to show love to those who don't deserve it or who we find hard to love? Do we have eyes of compassion to see their needs and a heart to love and serve them?

It is intentional: are we ready to get close to those in need around us, irrespective of the time we have or how we feel?

The story is told of Jesus asking a little child, *'how much do you love me?'* The child replied *'lots and lots and lots!'* Then they asked Jesus how much He loved them. Jesus stretched out His arms wide and said *'I love you this much'*, as they nailed Him to a cross.



We run a 'Messy Church' style service in the Church community centre every month as this allows families to attend church together. We also provide a sandwich tea after the activities for all who come along.

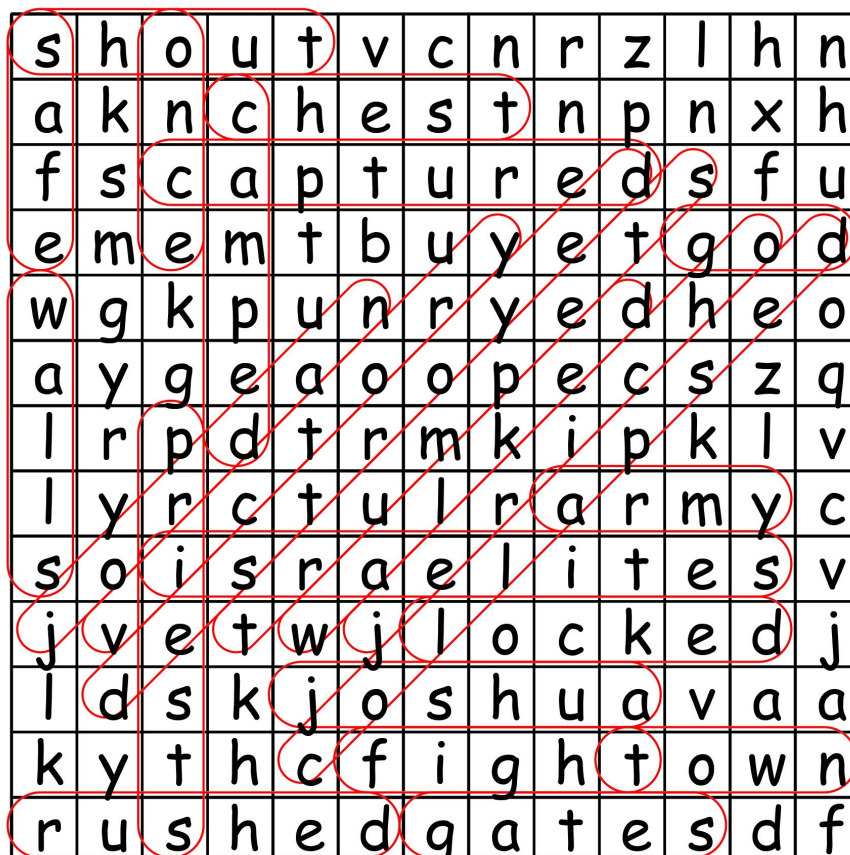
It is similar to the holiday club we run over the Summer where we explore Bible stories through craft and 'hands-on' activities.

Upcoming Dates:

February 9th, March 16th and April 13th at 4pm.

So, if you would like to be involved in the Messy Church team or if you know of any families who might like to attend then please speak with Rachael or any member of the team.

Rachael - 07752451057 / rachaelbrown1989@hotmail.co.uk





Join us for joyous, Spirit led worship every first
Sunday in the month at 7pm.

Dates for 2025

February 2nd

July 6th

March 2nd

August 3rd

April 6th

September 7th

May 4th

October 5th

June 1st

November 2nd

December 7th

**Boulton St Marys Church,
Boulton Lane, Alvaston, Derby, DE24 0GE**

Would you like to be reminded of our services?

Email us at **PrayYze.bsm@hotmail.com**

and ask to go on our mailing list.

Thank You From Wyndham Spencer Academy

Boulton St Mary's Church is a very special and important place for Wyndham Spencer Academy.

We have been attending the Church for many years as a school community to recognise and celebrate significant times of the year.

Our children, parents and carers, and staff always look forward to the walk to Church and feel part of something special when inside Church to celebrate Harvest and Christmas.

The warm welcome from all the Church organisers and supporters is just incredible. Staff, parents and carers always appreciate the hot drink and tasty treats prepared by the Church organisers.

Thank you to everyone at Boulton St Marys!



Being the school chaplain is a real joy and I always look forward to my time there.

Wyndham holds a special place in my heart too!

From Cheryl the Chaplain

National Nest Box Week

Where can family-minded birds raise their young these days? As our gardens and parklands become smaller and tidier, too many natural nest sites – such as holes in trees, old buildings and unkempt hedgerows – are rapidly disappearing

No wonder that our sparrows, greenfinches and swifts are in precipitous decline, and that one in four of our UK bird species are now under serious threat.



This makes it more important than ever to care for our remaining birds. By feeding, providing water and putting up nest boxes we can give them a safe space to raise their chicks.

The National Nest Box Week initiative encourages bird conservation across the UK, and it's easy to get involved, whether you're a teacher, part of a local wildlife group, or just wanting to boost the bird numbers in your own garden.

Visit: <https://www.countryfile.com/wildlife/birds/national-nest-box-week-how-to-help-birds-in-your-garden>

Perhaps you would like to help survey the birds in our churchyard? It all helps towards us achieving our Silver Eco Church Award!

Prayer for 2025

Dear Lord,

We begin a New Year!

We all have hopes, expectations, fears and uncertainties, as we move into 2025 – already a quarter of the way through this new century!

We can't know what will happen in the world, in our country, in our community, in our church family or in our lives during this year.

But we come before You, thankful that if we put our trust in Jesus and what He achieved on the cross, we need not be afraid; we are safe and secure as we seek his vision.

He takes all our hopes and fears and gives us His Peace and His Spirit in return, to sustain and equip us this New Year and always.

Thank you, gracious Father. Thank you, Lord of all the years.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

